

2012 Schedule of Events

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Cumberland Gap National Historical Park



Gap Cave

A two-hour adventure awaits as you explore Gap Cave with its majestic stalagmites, striking stalactites and shimmering flowstone. Step into the music room and listen for the whispers of a Civil War Soldier. Catch a glimpse of a little brown bat or a cave salamander. Reservations are recommended and can be made up

to one month in advance of the trip date. All tours meet at the Daniel Boone parking area.

This tour involves a 1.5 mile walk; 183 steps must be negotiated within the cave. For the safety of all, no children under the age of five are permitted on the cave tour. Wearing of sandals or cros in the cave is not allowed.

Adults - \$8.00

Seniors with Interagency Senior Pass - \$4.00

Children five through twelve - \$4.00

January 1 - March 31

Weekends only at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

April 1 - May 26

Weekdays at 10:00 a.m.

Weekends at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

May 27 - September 1

Daily at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

September 2 - November 24

Weekdays at 10:00 a.m.

Weekends at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

November 25 - December 31

Weekends only at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.



Hensley Settlement

Visit historic Hensley Settlement for a nostalgic look into early 20th century Appalachia. Meander down fence lined lanes, peek into the blacksmith's shop,

look into the springhouse or sit in the one room school. In 1904, Sherman Hensley and Willie Gibbons joined forces to establish a homestead on the mountaintop. Using hand tools to split chestnut logs, the settlers began to build homes. Fences surrounded the cleared land, creating pastures and garden plots. A thriving community soon emerged. The land, suitable for raising sheep and growing crops for liquid spirits, supported the community of twelve farmsteads for more than forty years. Reservations are recommended and can be made up to one month in advance of the trip date. All tours depart from the park visitor center.

Visitors must be able to walk one mile through the settlement; comfortable clothing and walking shoes are a must. Bring a light snack and drink for the 3 1/2 hour tour.

Adults - \$10.00

Seniors with Interagency Senior Pass - \$5.00

Children twelve and under - \$5.00

May 20 - October 31

Daily at 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

**First Thursday of Each Month
Cumberland Mountain Photography Club**

Join fellow photo enthusiasts for an evening of photography demonstrations, techniques and tips designed to get that perfect photo!

Photographers of all ability levels are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Visitor center at 6:30 p.m.

**Second and Fourth Thursdays of Each Month
Goodwife Guild Historic Clothing and Crafts Club**

Come experience history up close while learning about historic clothing and crafts. Traditional sewing techniques will help bring the stories of the past to life.

All ability levels and men are welcome.

Visitor center at 5:30 p.m.

**March 9
Full Worm Moon Hike**

As this spring moon looms, the ground begins to soften and earthworm casts reappear, inviting the return of robins. Known too as the Sap Moon, it marks the time when maple sap begins to flow and the annual tapping of maple trees begins. Welcome the full moon and the arrival of spring with a park ranger.

Thomas Walker parking area at 8:00 p.m.

**March 10
Hidden History Lecture Series
Rebel in the White House**



The White House was truly a "house divided" for several months during the Civil War. Come hear Kentucky Chautauqua speaker Betsy Smith portray Kentucky native and confirmed Confederate Emilie Todd Helm. Following the death of her husband, Brigadier General Benjamin Helm, at Chickamauga, Helm stayed with her half-sister Mary Todd Lincoln in the White House. This program is funded in part by the

Kentucky Humanities Council, Inc., and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Accompanied by an exhibit at the Abraham Lincoln Library and Museum in Harrogate, Tennessee.

Visitor center auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

**April 6
Full Pink Moon Hike**

The appearance of the moss pink, or wild ground phlox, one of the first spring flowers, is heralded by the Pink Moon, also known as the Sprouting Grass



Moon, the Egg Moon, and the Fish Moon. Join a park ranger and discover other signs of spring to include perhaps the calling of the whippoorwill.

Thomas Walker parking area at 8:00 p.m.

**April 14
Heritage Alive!**



Taking breaths full of mountain mists, drinking from Appalachia's crystal clear springs and reveling in her unequalled beauty changes us throughout the

years. The Ammons sisters prove this theory in their unique visual and auditory creations of what it means to have "mountain heritage." Through storytelling, music and a sweep of motion that magically becomes a mural before your very eyes, these talented sisters paint a picture of the deeply rich heritage that all Appalachian people possess!

Visitor center at 1:00 p.m.

**April 14 and 21
Spring's Beauty Pageant**

With the coming of spring, Mother Nature spreads her colorful apron upon the earth. Dazzling yellow wood sorrel, stunning violets, liverwort and delicate pink lady slippers are but a few of the colored gems scattered along the hillsides. With camera in hand, walk along the trails and find these wildflower treasures.

Colson Lane parking area at campground entrance at 10:00 a.m.



May 12
A Shady, Wet World

Step into the shady, wet world of a mountain stream community whose banks are lined with majestic towering hemlocks and fiddle ferns. Hidden in streams, beneath rocks and under logs lurk fascinating creatures - crayfish, salamanders and dragonfly nymphs - waiting to be discovered.

Sugar Run picnic area at 10:00 a.m.



May 12
Hidden History Lecture Series
Preserving Mining History

Barry Thacker, an engineer with Coal Creek Watershed Foundation, will give a program on the volatile mining history of Coal Creek, Tennessee (now Lake City), as well as Welsh mining communities in Kentucky.

Accompanied by an exhibit at the Bell County Historical Society.



Visitor center auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

June 2 - September 1
Every Saturday Night
Evening Around the Campfire



Around the glowing embers of a campfire, tales of long ago begin to emerge. Learn about the lives of the early settlers traveling the Wilderness Road. Hear intriguing stories of Civil War

soldiers during Morgan's retreat. Listen to the saga of women on the frontier. Learn intriguing tidbits about animals that live in the forest.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m.
In case of rain, the campfire program will be cancelled.

June 7, 8 and 9
Genealogy Jamboree

An estimated 48 million Americans can trace their ancestors to the migration through the Cumberland Gap. Learn how to find your forefather through unique venues located on both sides of the nation's first doorway to the west. Nationally renowned genealogical speakers, traditional crafts people and tradesmen will gather in the Towne of Cumberland Gap and at Cumberland Gap National Historical Park.

Call the visitor center for detailed information on locations and times.

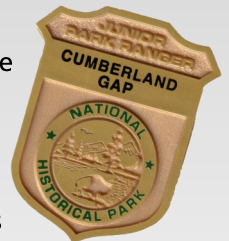
June 9
Bridging the Gap

Dickenson County, Virginia native Jimmy Mullins takes to the stage delighting all with "old timey" tunes, the blues and traditional mountain music. Early in his career, Jimmy's stage was the front porch; now he is a veteran of the Jettie Baker Center stage and the Music along the Crooked Road concert series.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m. In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

June 16th and 17th
Guns and Gabions at the Gap!

Calling all Junior Rangers TO ARMS! 150 years ago the Cumberland Gap was first occupied by the army of the Confederate States, but would exchange hands several times during the Civil War. Join us as we learn how soldiers from each side used the cannons, guns and gabions to fortify the great Cumberland Gap from the opposing foe!



Visitor center at 10:00 a.m.

June 16 - 17
Fortifying the Gap

Defending the rocky Cumberland Gap during the Civil War wasn't easy, which is why US Army engineer William P. Craighill incorporated gabions in his designs for several Gap earthworks. Visit Forts Lyon and McCook on the Pinnacle during the weekend to learn how these wicker baskets were constructed and used back in 1861.



July 7 Working on the Railroad

Retired railroad brakeman turned accomplished musician, Roy Harper has been performing old-time country music for more than fifty years. Roy has devoted his life to



continuing the traditions of the style of country music he grew up listening to. Come listen to this musical octogenarian who says of himself "Country music gradually got citified, and I stayed the same."

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m. In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

July 21 Junior Ranger CSI: Cave. Scene. Investigation

150 years ago, Civil War soldiers crept into Gap Cave and left behind their most personal possessions still hidden in secret passageways. Join us as we search for these treasures! Then, enjoy our special Junior Ranger cookout and stay for the special "Hidden History" program at 2:00 p.m.

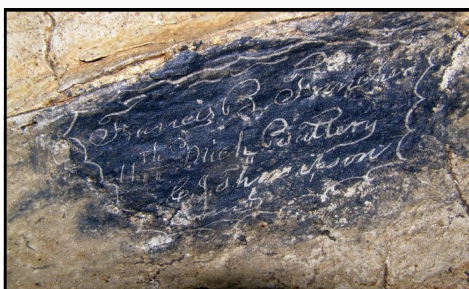


Reservations required and can be made up to one month in advance. For Junior Rangers 9 to 15 years old; children under 12 must be accompanied by no more than one adult.

Daniel Boone parking area at 10:00 a.m.

July 21 Hidden History Lecture Series Graffiti in the Cave

Today we think of graffiti as vandalism, but historical graffiti can lead to fascinating stories. Members of the Cave Research Foundation will share stories of some of the Civil War era graffiti they have discovered in the Gap Cave system and their research to find the men behind the names. Accompanied by a photo exhibit.



Visitor center auditorium at 2:00 p.m.

August 4 An Appalachian Moonlight Musical Evening

Local songwriters Ken Wilson and Larry Goodwin perform some amazing original acoustic music that is truly Americana! The duo's repertoire includes songs about taking a back road home, a miner's request to "bury me far from the coal mine with a tombstone of #9 coal," a talking flag at the General Store, a cowboy's last trail, a redheaded darlin' from Harlan, and the soldier who "came back in 004, to no home, no family and no parade."

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m. In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

August 25 Within the Shadows of Cumberland Gap Heritage Walk

Cumberland Gap's rich history is filled to the brim with chapters of the Cherokee and Shawnee, longhunters and pioneers, Civil War soldiers, industrialists and park visitors! Walk the Wilderness Road Trail through the historic Gap and meet the figures in each riveting chapter.



After the 1.5 mile long walk a shuttle service will be provided from the Thomas Walker parking area back to the Daniel Boone parking area.

Daniel Boone parking area at 5:00 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. Each tour is limited to 30 visitors. Reservations required and can be made up to one month in advance.

September 1 Privates by Choice

Close your eyes, smell the gunpowder and wipe the mist from your eyes as "Privates By Choice," a group of six writers and musicians from Kentucky and Missouri, commemorate the Civil War Sesquicentennial. Listen to the mournful plucking of the mandolin, the crying of the violin and the steady drumbeat of the dulcimer as they evoke the tragedy of war.

Wilderness Road Campground amphitheater at 8:00 p.m. In case of rain, the program will be in the visitor center auditorium.

September 21, 22 and 23 Appalachian Heritage Fest

Appalachian mountain heritage traditions of the past and present come to life during this weekend of traditional and contemporary arts, crafts and music!



Visitor center and grounds
Friday and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

October 6 Romp in the Woods



Vibrant autumn colors should welcome us along this 5.4 mile forest adventure. Departing from the Pinnacle, we will hike through breath taking forests,

over stunning streams and past unique sandstone outcroppings via an amazing loop of trails (Sugar Run, Harlan Road and Fort McCook).

Bring a sack lunch and plenty of water.

Pinnacle Overlook parking area at 9:00 a.m.

October 29 Full Hunter's Moon Hike

Many moons ago, Native Americans followed the Athawominee, or the Path of the Armed ones, to their hunting grounds where deer, bear and other animals had fattened on summer and autumn foods. Guided by the light of the Hunter's Moon, we will walk in the footsteps of these early people, remembering how nature guided their daily lives.

Thomas Walker parking area at 7:00 p.m.

November 10 Face to Face - Book!

America's native peoples have used storytelling to remember their history and pass it down through the generations. However, in a world full of modern technological communication devices we very rarely sit *face to face* and share the special stories that make our families' heritages unique! Junior Rangers and their families are invited to come together for this history saving program in which they will record for present and future generations some of the stories that have made their families special. Leave with your family's own personalized **Face to Face – Book**. Don't forget to bring grandma, grandpa or others with family stories. Reservations required and can be made up to one month in advance.



Visitor center at 10:00 a.m.

November 10 Hidden History Lecture Series Recording the Past

This two-hour workshop will include an introduction to oral history, tips on how to conduct an effective interview, and presentations on using oral history in a variety of ways, including in the classroom and as a



supplement to archival research. Reservations required and can be made up to one month in advance.

Visitor center auditorium at 1:00 p.m.

November 10 Owl Prowl

First, intrepid prowlers will be armed with information on the tri-state's local owls through a program at the park visitor center. Then, with a ranger, head out into the woods and search for these winged nighttime creatures that throughout the ages have fascinated and awed but which also have been feared and venerated.

Visitor center auditorium
at 7:00 p.m.



November 12

Retiring Old Glory

Old Glory remains a symbol of independence, hope, pride and love of country. Flags, once brilliant and glorious but now tattered and torn, must be retired with dignity and respect. Come... witness the solemn ceremony as Old Glory is laid to rest.

Visitor center flagpole at 5:00 p.m.

December 8

A Taste of Christmas Past

Young and old alike will thrill in the magic of mountain holidays of old. Feast on old time delectable favorites of Christmas cookies, hot chocolate, and Twelfth Night Cake! Create special gifts for loved ones.

Visitor center at 10:00 a.m.



Additional programs may be added throughout the year.

**Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, 91 Bartlett Park Road, Middlesboro, KY 40965
(606) 248-2817, extension 1075 or www.nps.gov/cuga**

Programs sponsored by the National Park Service, Cumberland Crafts of the Southern Highland Craft Guild, Eastern National and Friends of Cumberland Gap.

